

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No.464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated: - 12th May, 2009

To,

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States/UTs.

Subject: Election/Polling/Counting Agent- prohibition against appointment of
Minister/MP/MLA/MLC, etc. – regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's letter No. 464/INST/2009/EPS dated 25th April, 2009 and subsequent letter dated 28th April, 2009 regarding appointment of Election/Polling/Counting agent and to say that a question has been raised as to whether the Councilor or Member of Municipal Corporation or Municipality can be appointed as Counting Agent.

In this connection, it is stated that the matter has been considered by the Commission and it has been clarified that the Councilor or Member of Municipal Corporation or Municipality can also become Counting Agent.

This may be brought to the notice of all political parties and candidates in the State.

Yours faithfully,

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
UNDER SECRETARY

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi- 110 001.

No.464/INST/2009/EPS

Dated :12th May, 2009

To

The Chief Electoral Officer of
All States/Union Territories.

Sub: General Elections-2004-Security Measures for Electronic Voting Machine-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

The Commission vide it's letter No.464/OBS/EVM/2004, dated 12.04.2004 (copy enclosed) had issued instruction regarding the security and safety of electronic voting machines. During the General Election 2009 states would have to deploy respective State Armed Police to guard strong rooms containing polled EVMs due to the non-availability of CPF. The Commission has further reviewed the matter and has directed that the following measures be adopted for the Lok Sabha/Assembly Election 2009 in addition to the instructions mentioned in the Commission's above mentioned letter: -

- (i) Keys of the EVM strongroom should be in safe custody with the RO/DEO. The candidate should be allowed to put their own seal/lock etc. on the strong room and keep the keys with them.
- (ii) Arrangements should be made for candidates representative (not more than one each shift per candidate) to keep watch and guard the strong room.
- (iii) Video Cameras or CCTV Cameras should be installed out side strong rooms and such video recordings should be kept in safe custody.
- (iv) All contesting candidates should be intimated in writing to depute their representatives in the strong rooms to keep a close watch on security arrangement of Strong Room.

- (v) Sufficient number of police personnel should be deployed for the security of strong rooms.
- (vi) A control room adjacent to the Strong Room be opened round the clock;
- (vii) A Gazetted officer along with a police officers should be put on duty round the clock for monitoring the security arrangements of Strong Room.
- (viii) There should be sufficient arrangement of fire extinguishers near and inside the strong rooms.
- (ix) There should be an arrangement round the clock for the security of EVMs which have been segregated and stored after being used for training purposes.
- (x) District Election officer and Senior Superintendent of Police/Superintendent of Police would be completely responsible for the security of the EVM Strong Room and unused EVMs. They will analyse the arrangements and will ensure the security arrangements for EVM by visiting the place.

In this connection it is further directed that the DEOs should furnish a final report in the prescribed check list Annexure – 1 to the Chief Electoral Officers. The Chief Electoral Officers should ensure that the check list duly filled are received by them.

Yours faithfully,

(SUMIT MUKHERJEE)
UNDER SECRETARY